

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of menu-based remote control of external devices that are connected to an audio/video apparatus having a display device, comprising the steps of:

(a) displaying on the display device, a first menu image including a first plurality of menu items, each of the first plurality of menu items corresponding to each of the external devices, such that a selected external device from the external devices is selected from the first plurality of menu items;

(b) requesting a second menu image from the selected external device, the second menu image including a second plurality of menu items associated with operations of the selected external device, each of the second plurality of menu items being arranged in a specific position region in the second menu image;

(c) receiving the second menu image from the selected external device and displaying the second menu image on said display device in place of the first menu image previously displayed on said display device, the second menu image being displayed without performing an additional image construction process; and

(d) obtaining a position of a cursor on the second menu image displayed on said display device in response to a user input and transmitting the position of the cursor to the selected external device, the selected external device performing an operation corresponding to one of the second plurality of menu items when the selected external device detects the position of the cursor within the specific position region of the one of the second plurality of menu items and displaying the result of said operation on said display device in place of any image previously displayed;

(e) displaying the one of the second plurality of menu items differently from the other menu items of the second plurality of menu items on the second menu image when a cursor is positioned over the one of the plurality of menu items during the movement of the cursor, wherein the one of the second plurality of menu items over which the cursor is positioned is displayed differently from other menu items of the second plurality of menu items on the basis of information about the positions of the second plurality of menu items on the second menu image, said information being provided by the selected external device.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein each of the first plurality of menu items corresponds to each of the external devices that are connected to the audio/video apparatus through an IEEE 1394 interface.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of checking what external devices are connected through a common bus before the step (a).

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the checking step is performed in response to a user request of the first menu image for selection of the external devices.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the checking step is performed when communication with the external devices through the common bus is possible.

6-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of transmitting information about the current position of a cursor on the menu image displayed in said step (c) to said selected external device, wherein the user input includes an entry of a selection key by a user.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of menu-based remote control of external devices that are connected to an audio/video apparatus having a display device, comprising the steps of:

(a) checking if an external device is connected through a common bus, wherein the checking step is performed in response to a user request of a first menu image for selection of the external device, and wherein the checking step is performed when communication with the external device through the common bus is possible;

(ab) displaying on the display device, ~~a~~the first menu image including at least a first menu item, the first menu item corresponding to ~~an~~the external device, such that the external device is selected from the first menu item;

(bc) requesting a second menu image from the external device, the second menu image including at least a second menu item associated with an operation of the external device, the second menu item being arranged within a specific position region in the second menu image;

(ed) receiving the second menu image from the external device and displaying the second menu image on said display device to replace the first menu image previously displayed on said

display device, the second menu image being displayed without performing an additional image construction process; and

(de) obtaining a position of a cursor on the second menu image displayed on said display device in response to a user input and transmitting the position of the cursor to the external device, the external device performing the operation corresponding to the second menu item when the external device detects the position of the cursor within the specific position region of the second menu item and displaying the result of said operation on said display device to replace any image previously displayed,

wherein the second menu item changes color and/or brightness when the external device detects the position of the cursor within the specific position region of the second menu item.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the user input includes an entry of a selection key by a user.

12-14. (Cancelled)